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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,639	10/24/2003	Eric Rudolph	302126.02	8619

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EXAMINER
ALI, MOHAMMAD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2166	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/17/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 04/17/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/692,639	RUDOLPH ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Mohammad Ali	2166

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 January 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) *8-18 and 24-32* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7 and 19-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 and 9-23 have been considered

but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3.   Claims 1-7 and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Russel WilburPogue, Jr. ('Pogue, Jr.' hereinafter), USP, 5,995,512 in view of.

Sistanizadeh et al. ('Sistanizadeh' hereinafter), USP, 6,68,232.

With respect to claim 1,

Pogue, Jr. teaches a method for providing a topology interface for a multimedia

processing system, the method comprising (see col. 6, lines 60-65, Fig. 9, Pogue, Jr.):

receiving by an application programming interface (see Fig. 1) a plurality of

media parameters identifying at least an identifier, a node type, a data type and a

duration (see col. 9, lines 64 to col. 10, lines 10, Pogue, Jr.); and

in response, creating by the application programming interface (see Fig. 1) a

topology capable of being passed to a media processor as an extensible symbolic

representation of an intended media flow based on at least one of the received media

parameters (see col. 10, lines 15-25, Fig. 1, Pogue, Jr.).

Pogue, Jr. does not explicitly indicate claimed application programming interface.

Sistanizadeh teaches claimed application programming interface (Java Database

Connectivity (JDBC) provides a standard application programming interface (API)

which allows the SLM application to access relational data, in the IFS database in

server, see col. 7, lines 48-51, Figs. 1, 6, Sistanizadeh).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the multimedia data

processing art at the time of the present invention to modify the teachings of the cited

references because application programming interface of Sistanizadeh's teaching would

have allowed Pogue, Jr.'s system to monitor the operations of extended area of data

communication network by analyzing semantic transparency or time transparency of

data through the network based on the data to provided by the persistent layer module

from the agents in the network as suggested by Sistanizadeh at col. 2, lines 56-60.

As to claim 2,

Pogue, Jr. teaches wherein the media parameters include one or more of a GetCacherObject, a GetNodeType, a GetTopoNodeID, a SetProjectStartStop, a GetProjectStartStop, a GetInputCount, a GetOutputCount, a ConnectOut, a GetInput, a GetOutput, a SetOutputPrefType, a GetOutputPrefType, a SetMajorType, a GetMajorType, a CloneFrom, a SetInputCount, a SetOutputCount, a SetStreamDiscardable, a GetStreamDiscardable, a SetOptionalFlag, and a GetOptonalFlag (see col. 25, lines 55-65, Fig. 6, Pogue, Jr.).

As to claim 3,

Pogue, Jr. teaches wherein the media parameters include a SetSourceAndDescriptor method that enables a topology loader to create a media stream based on a descriptor (see col. 7, lines 50-55, Fig. 1, Pogue, Jr.).

As to claim 4,

Pogue, Jr. teaches wherein the node type is a segment topology node type such that any modifications made to the topology to add, remove or connect nodes does not alter input and output nodes (see col. 16, lines 52-65, Pogue, Jr.).

As to claim 5,

Pogue, Jr. teaches wherein the unique identifier enables sharing and reusing the nodes in a plurality of topologies (see col. 10, lines 15-25, Fig. 1, Pogue, Jr.).

As to claim 6,

Pogue, Jr. teaches wherein the segment topology node type is created via an

IMFSegmentTopologyNode: IUnknown interface (see col. 10, lines 15-25, Fig. 1,

Pogue, Jr.).

As to claim 7,

Pogue, Jr. teaches wherein the segment topology node type is created via an

IMFSegmentTopologyNode: IUnknown interface including one or more of

GetSegmentTopology(IMFTopolgy* pTopology), SegmentTopology(IMFTopology- **

ppTopology), SetDirty(BOOL bDirty), BOOL IsDirty( ), BOOL

GetActualOutputNode(long lOutputIndex, IMFTopologyNode** ppActualNode, long*

plNodeOutputIndex), and BOOL GetActualInputNode(long lInputIndex,

IMFTopologyNode** ppActualNode, long* plNodeInputIndex) (see col. 7, lines 50-55,

Fig. 1, Pogue, Jr.).

Claims 19-23 have the same subject matter as of claims 1-7 segment of topology

node and Pogue, Jr. teaches at col. 7, lines 50-55, Fig. 1 and essentially rejected for the

same reasons as discussed above. Pogue, Jr. does not explicitly indicate claimed

application programming interface. Sistanizadeh teaches claimed application

programming interface (Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) provides a standard

application programming interface (API) which allows the SLM application to access

relational data, in the IFS database in server, see col. 7, lines 48-51, Figs. 1, 6,

Sistanizadeh). It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the multimedia data

processing art at the time of the present invention to modify the teachings of the cited

references because application programming interface of Sistanizadeh's teaching would

have allowed Pogue, Jr.'s system to monitor the operations of extended area of data

communication network by analyzing semantic transparency or time transparency of

data through the network based on the data to provided by the persistent layer module

from the agents in the network as suggested by Sistanizadeh at col. 2, lines 56-60.

Conclusion

4.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Remarks

5.   Rotocil et teaches including claims limitation "symbolic representation,...."at para.

0058, 0078. Anderson and Hoffberg also teaches claimed subject matter.

Contact Information

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Mohammad Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4105. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (7:30 am-6:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mohammad Ali
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2166

MA
April 9, 2007